ORANGE SOCIETIES.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons dated 17 July 1835;—*for*,

COPIES of ORDERS issued by the Commander-in-Chief of the Forces from the Year 1820 to the present Period, forbidding the Formation or Existence of ORANGE SOCIETIES, or other secret or exclusive Societies in the Army;—Also, CORRESPONDENCE between the Commander-in-Chief of the Forces, and any Officer in command of Regiments respecting the infraction of the above Orders.

War-Office, 20 July 1835. } HOWICK.

LIST.

1. Letter from the Adjutant general to the Deputy Secretary-at-War, dated 20 July 1835.
2. Circular Letter from the Adjutant-general, dated 1 July 1822.
3. Ditto - - - - - - - ditto - - dated 14 November 1829.
4. The Adjutant-general to Officer commanding 4th Dragoon Guards, dated 19 May 1835.
5. Major Makepeace, 4th Dragoon Guards, to Adjutant-general, dated 22 May 1835.
6. Colonel Turner to Officer commanding the Troops at Cork, dated 5 September 1834.
7. "Martinet" to Sir Thomas Arbuthnot, K.C.B.
8. Lieutenant-colonel Chatterton to the Adjutant-general, dated 1 June 1835.
9. The Adjutant-general to Lieutenant-colonel Chatterton, 4 June 1835.

—No. 1.—

LETTER from the Adjutant-general to the Deputy Secretary-at-War, dated 20 July 1835.

SIR, Horse Guards, 20 July 1835.

BY Lord Hill's desire, and in compliance with the Order of The House of Commons, which accompanied your letter of the 18th instant, I have now the honour herewith to transmit the accompanying copies of two circular letters issued by order of the Commander-in-Chief, prohibiting the formation of Orange Lodges in the army; and copies of a correspondence with the Officer commanding the 4th Dragoon Guards, in consequence of some men of that regiment having attended an Orange Lodge at Cork.

1 July 1822.
14 November 1829.

I have, &c.

(signed) *John Macdonald*, Adjutant-general.

—No. 2.—

(Confidential.)

CIRCULAR Letter from the Adjutant-general, dated 1 July 1822.

Sir, Horse Guards, 1 July 1822.

REPORTS having reached the Commander-in-Chief that measures are taking in some regiments to promote the establishment of Orange Lodges, and that in certain instances commanding officers have been solicited to permit soldiers to receive diplomas for holding such Lodges, His Royal Highness desires that you will state, for His Royal Highness's information, whether any attempt of this description has been made in the regiment under your command, as His Royal Highness cannot too strongly reprobate a practice so fraught with injury to the discipline of the Army.

Addressed to Officers commanding regiments of Cavalry and Infantry at Home and Abroad (East Indies excepted).

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. Torrens*, Adjutant-general.

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— No. 3. —

(Confidential.)

CIRCULAR Letter from the Adjutant-general, dated 14 November 1829.

Addressed to Commanding Officers of Regiments and Depôts, and to General and other Officers on the Staff, at Home and Abroad.

Sir, Horse Guards, 14 November 1829.

In consequence of circumstances which have recently come to the knowledge of the General Commanding-in-Chief, his Lordship has directed me to transmit to you a duplicate of the circular issued on the 1st July 1822, by His late Royal Highness the Duke of York, and to call your attention to the necessity of strict conformity to it, and of the exercise of the utmost vigilance on your part, to prevent the introduction, or the existence, in the regiment under your command, of the practice therein adverted to, and which was so justly reprobated by His Royal Highness as "fraught with injury to the discipline of the Army."

In making any inquiry with a view to ascertain whether any Orange Lodges have been made in the regiment under your command, you will cause it to be clearly understood by the men, that the investigation has become necessary on military grounds, and that they will not be exposed to any reflection or disgrace on account of being Orangemen, but that their meetings being contrary to order, and to the rules of the service, cannot be permitted, under any pretence. Finally, that their disregard of this caution will subject them to trial and punishment for disobedience of orders.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Taylor*, Adjutant-general.

— No. 4. —

LETTER from the Adjutant-general to the Officer Commanding the 4th Dragoon Guards, dated 19 May 1835.

Sir, Horse Guards, 19 May 1835.

In transmitting to you the enclosed extract of a letter from Lieut.-general Sir Hussey Vivian, respecting a meeting, which it appears took place at the Cumberland Rooms, Cork, on the evening of the 1st instant, and at which certain non-commissioned officers and men of the 4th Dragoon Guards attended; I have it in command to signify Lord Hill's desire, that you will explain fully, for his Lordship's consideration, the circumstances alluded to in the before-mentioned extract, namely, the extraordinary ignorance manifested by the non-commissioned officers of the 4th Dragoon Guards, of the spirit of the circular letter dated 1st July 1822, and the neglect of those precautionary measures, which with reference to the above letter were so recently pointed out in a communication made to you on the 5th September last.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John Macdonald*, Adjutant-general.

— No. 5. —

LETTER from Major *Makepeace*, 4th Dragoon Guards, to the Adjutant-general, dated 22 May 1835.

Sir, Brighton Barracks, 22 May 1835.

I have to acknowledge the receipt, by this morning's mail, of your letter of the 19th instant, enclosing an extract of a communication from Lieutenant-general Sir Hussey Vivian, respecting a meeting at Cork, which certain non-commissioned officers and men of the regiment under my command attended, and have the honour to acquaint you, agreeably to General Lord Hill's desire, that I feel there is some difficulty in fully accounting for the extraordinary ignorance manifested by the said men, of the circular letter of the 1st July 1822. It might have arisen from a misconception, or a want of sufficient explanation of the same; or from the object of the meeting in question, viz. a farewell treat upon the occasion of the regiment leaving their late quarters, when no business having reference to Orange or party purposes was transacted.

This ignorance, or the probability of its ever being advanced in defence of such conduct again, will, I have every reason to hope, be obviated by the steps which I have taken, namely, by assembling and fully pointing out, in the strongest manner to

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to the troops stationed at this quarter, and directing the officers in command at the out-stations to do the same, the disobedience of orders which they will hereafter be guilty of, and the certain punishment which will await any repetition of a practice so injurious to the discipline of the army.

With respect to the communication of the 5th of September last, it appears by reference to the letter-book, that, in answer to the inquiries then made by Lieutenant-colonel Chatterton, "he could not ascertain that any dragoon attended any of the meetings in question."

I take leave further to remark, that I have particularly called the attention of the non-commissioned officers to the necessity of immediately reporting to the adjutant, for the information of the commanding officer, any dragoon who may hereafter be known to visit (or suspected of doing so) any house or room set apart for party or political meetings, or in any other way offending against the spirit of the order of the 1st of July 1822.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Charles Mahepeace*,
Major 4th Dragoon Guards.

— No. 6. —

LETTER from Lieutenant-colonel *Turner*, to the Officer commanding the Troops at *Cork*, dated 5 September 1834.

Sir, Assistant Adjutant-general's Office, *Cork*, 5 September 1834.

I AM directed by Major-general Sir Thomas Arbuthnot to send you the enclosed letter taken from one of the Cork papers, with a request that you will be pleased to make every inquiry on the subject, and make a report to me for his information accordingly.

Sir Thomas Arbuthnot further requests, that you will be pleased to adopt such measures as may enable you from time to time to ascertain if the soldiers under your command attend Orange lodges, in direct opposition to the circular letter dated Horse Guards, 1st July 1822, or other clubs of a political nature.

See page 380 of the Addenda to the General Regulations and Orders of the Army.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Charles Turner*,
Assistant Adjutant-general.

— No. 7. —

LETTER signed "*Martinet*" to Major-general Sir *Thomas Arbuthnot*, K.C.B.

Sir,

I AM a man in business in the city of Cork. It would not serve me to make a personal communication to you; I therefore take this method of informing you, that several of the soldiers of the regiments now in the Cork garrison, as well as some artillery soldiers from Ballincollig, are in the habit of attending the Orange Lodge Rooms in Faulkner's-lane. When my Lord Roden was last in Cork, some of those men issued from the lodge room with Orange badges, close in the rear of his lordship. No later than yesterday (Wednesday), some of the leading Orangemen of Cork held a meeting at Faulkner's-lane, where some soldiers were seen retiring with their brother Orangemen. This being a secret society, soldiers ought not to be allowed to attend. The grand master or secretary would probably furnish you, sir, with the names of the soldiers so attending, and I shall only look to future meetings to know if this communication has had any effect in checking what I consider a very great evil.

Your obedient servant,
Martinet.

— No. 8. —

LETTER from Lieutenant-colonel *Chatterton*, to the Adjutant-general, dated 1 June 1835.

Brighton, 1 June 1835.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your letter of the 26th ultimo and its enclosure, and beg in reply to state, that as I conceived the circular letter of the 1st June 1822 alluded more particularly to "the establishment of Orange Lodges in regiments,"

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ments," and as I was persuaded such never existed in the regiment under my command, the circular in question was not promulgated generally amongst the men.

As regards the communication made to me on the 5th September last, it related to an assembly held about that time of Orangemen in Cork. I then made every inquiry, and ascertained none of the 4th dragoon guards attended the meeting in question.

I certainly was not aware there were so many Orangemen in the 4th dragoon guards, as has since been ascertained; but measures have now been taken to prevent any of the dragoons attending meetings which have any tendency to party.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. C. Chatterton*,
Lieutenant-colonel 4th Dragoon Guards.

— No. 9. —

LETTER from the Adjutant-general to Lieutenant-colonel *Chatterton*, dated 4 June 1835.

Sir, Horse Guards, 4 June 1835.

I HAVE had the honour to lay before the General Commanding in Chief, your letter of the 1st instant, and am directed to acquaint you, that Lord Hill is glad to perceive that measures have been taken to prevent any of the non-commissioned officers or soldiers of the 4th dragoon guards from attending meetings, of whatsoever description, which have a tendency to party, which measure his Lordship trusts you will take care shall be strictly carried into effect.

I have, &c.

(signed) *John Macdonald*, Adjutant-general.

(True Copies.) *John Macdonald*, Adjutant-general.

ORANGE SOCIETIES.

RETURN of Copies of ORDERS issued by the Commander-in-Chief of the Forces, forbidding the Formation or Existence of ORANGE SOCIETIES in the ARMY.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*, 17 *July* 1835.

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